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"must necessarily be bound together more closely by some kind of federal system, subject to a reinvigorated federal law that shall be fortified by sanctions more authoritative and potent than those that have hitherto been applied to safeguard the law of nations"—and the logic of the whole work leads to this conclusion. The volume, while always learned and precise, is never technical and dull, and this and subsequent editions will appeal to an ever widening circle of readers who desire to be informed on the war's legal problems.

Dr. Phillipson's statement of the British defense of their extensions of international law is too brief to be very convincing and it was written before the more recent Orders in Council. But Sir Francis Piggott devotes his volume almost exclusively to the Order of March 11, 1915, and the case he makes out for British restrictions of neutral trade is by far the most convincing that has come to the reviewer's attention. Sir Francis points out that "in the supreme display of sea-power known as 'blockade' we find that the right of the belligerent does, as is inevitable, take the upper hand, and the right of the neutral disappears," and he argues that this principle justifies England's attitude. It is possible for neutrals to trade with Germany only on account of her adventitious land frontiers against neutral powers whose coasts cannot be blockaded, and England asks that neutrals forego this right, which would have been taken away with greater hardships if Germany had been an island, particularly since Germany uses the trade only for military advantage and her own submarine offensive is conducted with no regard for neutral lives or property. Sir Francis insists upon the spirit, rather than upon the bare letter of the rules which have developed, and if his volume, while occasionally flippant, could be read widely in the United States, the American attitude would doubtless become more tolerant; we would come to think of our present benevolent neutrality having a slight basis in law in addition to its firm foundation of sympathy.

LINDSAY ROGERS.

THE VIRGINIA PROHIBITION ACT, by T. B. Benson. (Charlottesville: L. F. Smith and W. F. Souder, Jr., 1916, pp. 197.)

When the Virginia Legislature considered the prohibition measure at its session last year, it was concerned with getting into the act the demands of the prohibition interests and did not try to frame a statute that would be clear and unambiguous. The eighty sections of the law, embodying as they do all that was demanded by the advocates of a dry Virginia, cover thirty-two pages of the session laws, and while apparently they omit no important subjects they are not easily understood. The final word as to conflicting and vague provisions will not be said until the courts have decided a number of cases or the legislature has improved its product.

In the meantime this analysis of the law by Mr. Benson, a writer of authority, will unquestionably prove of great service. The lawyer—not to speak of the interested layman—should find it a *vade mecum* for what

the law permits and what it prohibits. The badly drawn and poorly arranged sections are logically classified by Mr. Benson under twelve heads: "Constitutionality, Construction and Definition of Terms"; "Prohibited Acts"; "Prohibited Intoxicants"; "Carriers"; "Druggists"; "Hotels and Boarding Houses"; "Hospitals and Laboratories"; "Clubs, Billiard Rooms, etc."; "Minors, Females, Students, Intemperates, Physicians and Manufacturers" [a rather catholic classification to the reviewer's mind]; "Record, Affidavits and Stamps"; "Commissioner of Prohibition, and Deputies, Inspectors and Attorneys"; "Enforcement of Act"; "Civil Damage Act," and "Property and Contract Rights." These provisions are elaborately cross-indexed in the text and an index makes them even more readily accessible.

But in addition to this analysis of the Virginia statute the work contains some accurate observations on the law of intoxicating liquors. While not concerned with constitutional questions, cases are cited to indicate why particular provisions are valid, and the editor in all instances gives authorities for the conclusions which he draws as to the meaning of the provisions, and the way the courts should interpret them. This feature of the book should command favorable notice for it outside of Virginia.

Within the state, the work will be particularly valuable—perhaps authoritative—to the courts and legal profession in determining the meaning of the provisions of the law.

LINDSAY ROGERS.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE, by Hubert Bruce Fuller. (Washington: John Byrne & Co., 1915, pp. x, 585.)

In his opening chapter Mr. Fuller, under the caption "The Commerce Clause of the Constitution," gives a brief and concise, yet an adequate and instructive, history of the considerations which led up to the adoption of the commerce clause of the Constitution and the passage of the Act to Regulate Commerce and the acts kindred thereto, together with a review of the principal decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States bearing upon the construction of the constitutional clause. Particular mention is made of the extent to which the individual states may legislate under the police and taxing powers upon matters touching interstate commerce.

Each section of the Act to Regulate Commerce is treated in an independent chapter, the chapters varying in length in proportion to the scope and importance of the particular section of the Act dealt with. Notes containing exhaustive citations to the United States Supreme Court cases construing and bearing upon each section of the Act and excerpts from the opinions in the most important cases are appended to each chapter. The Elkins Act is treated in the last chapter, with equally exhaustive notes and citations.

The rules of practice before the Interstate Commerce Commission in proceedings under the Act and illustrative forms are set out in the